



Congressman

Ken Calvert

43rd District • California • December 1999

Dear Business Leaders:

Did you know?

- Small businesses constitute 98 percent of all businesses in America
- Small businesses make up 38 percent of the GDP and produce almost 1/2 the Gross Business Product.
- Small businesses employ nearly 60 percent of the workforce and have created about two-thirds of the net new jobs in the American economy since the early 1970s.

With the closing of the 1st session of the 106th Congress, we made history by stopping the thirty-year "Raid on Social Security" while *balancing the federal budget for the first time since 1969*. This fiscal restraint has helped strengthen the U.S. economy and as a result strengthen our small businesses. It has taken five years of diligent work to restore America to the people – so that they can control their own lives and businesses – but it has paid off. I invite you to take a look at our five-year progress report. The graphs vividly testify to the power of the idea: Freedom works! With more freedom comes greater security.

Sincerely,

Making Small Business a Priority

- **The Death Tax Elimination Act (H.R. 8)** - Currently pending. I am adamantly opposed to taxing people for dying. This legislation would repeal the estate tax on family-owned businesses, protecting thousands of small businesses and family farms across the country.
- **Y2K Dispute Resolution Act (H.R. 775)** - Became Law on July 20, 1999. This legislation allows alternative means of dispute resolution outside the courts by establishing certain procedures for civil actions brought for failure of any device or system to process the transition from the year 1999 to the year 2000. It is a sound means for addressing this problem and for this reason I cosponsored the bill.
- **Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act (H.R. 1568)** - Became Law on August 17, 1999. Requires the Small Business Administration to establish new programs that facilitate veterans' small business ownership and to enhance existing efforts. I was happy to support this bill.
- **Women's Business Centers Sustainability Act (H.R. 1497)** - Became Law on October 19, 1999. It amends the Women's Business Center Program to allow those in the 5th year of the program, as well as Graduate Centers, to apply for assistance for an additional four-year period. The program provides skills training, counseling, mentoring, education and outreach to women entrepreneurs and their businesses.
- **Small Business Superfund Fairness Act (H.R. 2247)** - Currently pending. I am a cosponsor of this vital piece of legislation that would exempt small businesses from Superfund liability while providing environmental safeguards to ensure that real polluters still remain responsible for cleaning up the nation's hazardous waste sites.

ESA UPDATE

The July 9th Congressional field hearing in Hemet, successfully highlighted ongoing problems with the implementation of the Endangered Species Act by the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office. The U.S. General Accounting Office has begun an audit of the Carlsbad office, which was requested by a bipartisan majority of the California delegation. I look forward to their suggestions on how the Carlsbad office should be reformed



to better serve its customers and endangered species.

Congressman Ken Calvert speaks to SEMA Chairman-elect Nate Shelton after a tour of K&N Engineering

Other Projects

- \$500,000 to supplement the long-term restoration efforts being conducted by the City of Lake Elsinore to save their lake.
- \$28 million for the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project, of which \$5 million is allocated for Prado Dam.
- \$750,000 for the University of California at Riverside College of Engineering, Center for Environmental Research and Technology, to continue research on advanced vehicle design, transportation systems, emissions and atmospheric pollution at the California Speedway in Fontana.
- \$1 million for the removal of arundo donax along the Santa Ana River basin.